

Playground Committee Meeting 6-10-10

<http://hmsplayground.wikispaces.com/>

Participants: Barbara Houldsworth, Bob Berliner, Bill Carozza, Steve Chamberlin, Matt Comai, Denise Damour, Dick Fortier, Ed Girzone, Don Houston, Jessica Scheiman, Sally Turcotte.

Intro: Bill explained why we were brought together, that an anonymous donor has come forward with approximately \$50K for the playground project. One stipulation is that any playground work should be appropriate for the age of HMS students.

Bill then described the history of HMS playground changes over the last 10 years. (See powerpoint on the wiki.)

Committee Chair:

The donors felt that the Chair should be an HMS parent if at all possible. If you are interested, please contact Bill.

Brainstorming Possibilities:

- Fencing-separating from the parking lot?
- Basketball or multi-use court
- Walking Trail
- Creating Shade
- Preschool-path, bikes
- Gazebo
- Kicking Wall
- Target for throwing balls

Important thoughts:

- Be sure that there are enough features for a typical class to enjoy at recess.
- Do we need to expand the footprint or add to it?
- Be sure this is ADA compliant
- Do we involve the prison as inexpensive labor?
- What can be volunteer built?
- Perhaps fund this in stages
- As a marketing tool, use the child obesity issue.

Potential Committee Process:

- Determine Comm. Members and Chair
- Determine reasonable timeline
- Develop a finance subcomm.
- Visit other playgrounds, continue brainstorming ideas
- Obtain quotes
- Arrive at decision on what to install
- Secure contractors/volunteers
- Instal
- Celebrate

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Timeline:

- We need a two month lead time for installation
- We decided that Spring or Summer 2011 will be most appropriate for installation.

Decisions:

- \$50K will not pay even for an entire playground structure, but it will be a start if we begin a fundraiser campaign.
- Given funding our best guess for installation will be Spring or Summer 2011.
- We will visit other playgrounds, take pictures and email to Bill. (Feel free to put the pics on a stick and get them to me that way.)
 - Steve: Bedford Rec, New Boston, Bow
 - Portsmouth: Any takers?
 - New Boston: Ed and Bob
 - White's Park in Concord: Dick
 - Deerfield: Bill

Next meeting: Monday, June 21, 5:30-6:30 in the HMS library